GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2558
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016
White Asbestos
Mullappally Shri Ramachandran

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of white asbestos has been banned in the world and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether white asbestos is still being used in India and if so, the reasons therefor; and
(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a)There is no world-wide ban on manufacture and usage of White Asbestos. Many countries such as Russia, China, Brazil, Kazakhstan and Canada are producers and exporters of White Asbestos.
(b)&(c) The use of White (Chrysotile) Asbestos in manufacturing is regulated in India. White Asbestos is used for various purposes viz. asbestos cement pipes, roofing of households, asbestos based manufacturing products like brake linings etc. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the revised emission standards for asbestos based products manufacturing industries in March, 2006. These standards are being enforced through State Pollution Control Boards / Union Territory Pollution Control Committees.

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